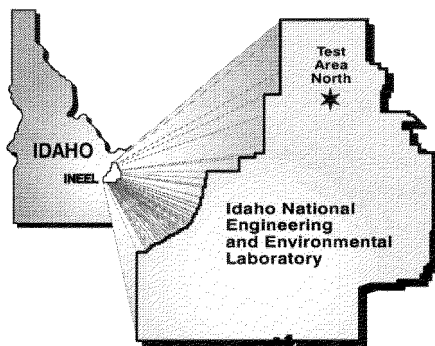


NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Agencies issue amendment to INEEL Record of Decision



potential for worker exposure during the excavation and treatment process, removes the contaminated material from Test Area North and consolidates it into an approved disposal facility.

The other alternatives considered in a 2003 proposed plan were on- and off-site vitrification, thermal desorption and chemical oxidation. After considering public comments, the agencies selected chemical oxidation/reduction with stabilization for treating the "V-tank" waste. The tanks and surrounding contaminated soil will be excavated for disposal at the INEEL CERCLA Disposal Facility.

The U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have agreed to amend a plan to clean up several underground waste tanks at the INEEL's Test Area North facility.

The new plan calls for the tanks to be dug up and the waste inside them to be treated on site. The treated wastes and the tanks will be disposed of on site at an approved disposal facility.

An amendment to the original cleanup plan for the underground tanks became necessary because the commercial, out-of-state treatment process specified for treating the tank waste in the original decision is no longer available. The new **plan reduces the**

Besides these changes to the original cleanup plan, the amendment describes cleanup of other tanks and sites at Test Area North. These less-significant changes include a different method for waste removal for another set of underground tanks at Test Area North, called the PM-2A tanks.

In the original plan, the waste in the PM-2A tanks was going to be removed by vacuum excavation. But further study of the tanks indicates that they can be removed without first removing the waste, reducing the potential for worker exposure during the excavation and treatment process. The tanks and treated waste will be placed in the INEEL CERCLA Disposal Facility.

The following documents are available in the INEEL Administrative Record:

- Record of Decision Amendment for the V-Tanks and Explanation of Significant Differences for the PM-2A Tanks at Test Area North, Operable Unit 1-10 (*Document No. DOE/ID-10682 Amendment*)
- First Five Year Review Report for the Test Reactor Area, Operable Unit 2-13 (*Document No. DOE/ID-11099*)

The Administrative Record is located at the DOE Reading Room of the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls. Copies can be found at Albertsons Library on the Boise State University. The Administrative Record can be accessed on the Internet at <http://ar.inel.gov/>. More information on Test Area North can be found in a fact sheet available online at: <http://cleanup.inel.gov>.



G1185-01